

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fan blade cleaning tool, comprising:

a box-shaped housing having first and second openings on opposing sides and a passage extending therebetween for receiving a fan blade, said first opening and said passageway defined by upper and lower major surfaces of said housing and first and second sidewalls of said housing extending between said upper and lower major surfaces; and

a dust gutter extending outwardly from, ~~and adjacent to,~~ said lower major surface at said first opening and at a downward incline with respect to said lower major surface so that said dust gutter lies below said lower major surface of said housing and dust on the fan blade falls away from said first opening into said dust gutter when the fan blade is moved in said first opening.
2. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 1, wherein said housing includes opposing first and second inner walls defining said passage.
3. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 2, further comprising first and second cleaning pads removably securable within said passage.
4. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 3, wherein said first pad is adjacent said first inner wall, and said second pad is adjacent said second inner wall.
5. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 4, wherein said first and second pads are deformably resilient and form a fit within said passage.

6. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 5, wherein said first and second pads are foam.
7. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 5, wherein said first and second pads include adjacent cleaning surfaces for simultaneously contacting opposing surfaces of the fan blade.
8. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 5, wherein said first and second pads have substantially identical dimensions.
9. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 5, wherein at least one of said first and second pads includes a beveled edge.
10. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 9, wherein said beveled edge is adjacent said first opening.
11. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 3, wherein said pads are moistened with a polishing fluid.
12. (Currently Amended) The cleaning tool of claim 3, wherein said upper and lower major surfaces respectively comprise ~~housing comprises~~ a first major planar surface spaced from a second major planar surface, and said first and second sidewalls extend ~~extending between and~~ integral with said first and second major surfaces.

13. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 12, wherein said dust gutter extends outwardly from, and is integral with, said second major surface.
14. (Currently Amended) The cleaning tool of claim 12, further comprising a tubular member having a tubular member passage extending outwardly from said second major surface.
15. (Currently Amended) The cleaning tool of claim 14, wherein said tubular member passage extends substantially perpendicular to said second major surface.
16. (Currently Amended) The cleaning tool of claim 14, further comprising an elongate handle releasably securably within said tubular member passage.
17. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 12, wherein said first and second major planar surfaces flare outwardly proximate said first opening.
18. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 17, wherein said first opening is larger than said second opening.
19. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 12, wherein at least one of said first and second major planar surfaces includes an indented portion relative to an edge defining said second opening.

20. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 19, wherein said indented portion exposes a portion of an outer surface of said cleaning pad.
21. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 12, wherein said dust gutter lies on a plane spaced from the plane of said second major planar surface.
22. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 1, wherein said housing and said dust gutter are integrally formed of plastic.
23. (Original) The cleaning tool of claim 1, wherein said dust gutter includes a curved base.
24. (Withdrawn) A method of cleaning a fan blade, comprising the steps of:
passing a fan blade through a passage extending through a box shaped housing while simultaneously cleaning opposing major surfaces of the fan blade; and
collecting debris from opposing major surfaces of the fan blade in a dust gutter during said passing step.
25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, comprising the further step of
simultaneously applying a polishing fluid to opposing major surfaces of the fan blade during said passing step.
26. (New) A fan blade cleaning tool, comprising:
a housing having at least one opening and a passage extending from said at least one opening into said housing for receiving a fan blade;

first and second cleaning pads disposed inside said passageway, said first and second cleaning pads having first and second planar cleaning surfaces, respectively, for contacting opposing sides of the fan blade when the fan blade is moved through said passageway, and said first and second cleaning pads arranged with substantially no gap between said first and second planar cleaning surfaces so that the fan blade deforms the first and second cleaning pads when inserted therebetween; and

a dust gutter disposed adjacent to said at least one opening and extending outwardly therefrom so that force from said first and second cleaning pads removes dust from the fan blade and the removed dust falls into said dust gutter.